COMMANDERS DIGEST

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OLD AND NEW—Melvin R. Laird, secretary of defense-designate, second from left, and his Deputy-designate David Packard, left, pose for photos with out-going defense chiefs at Pentagon luncheon. They are Clark M. Clifford, secretary of defense, second from right, and his deputy, Paul H. Nitze.

Allowance Remedy Sought

The Department of Defense on Jan. 6 sent Congress its recommendations for remedial legislation concerning the payment of a $30 monthly allowance to certain married servicemen serving unaccompanied tours abroad or at sea.

Rep. Charles E. Bennett, D.-Fla., on Jan. 3 introduced similar legislation (H.R. 110).

Originally, the $30 payment for family separation was authorized by Congress in the Uniformed Services Pay Act of 1963.

But on Feb. 9, 1968, the Comptroller General ruled that:

"Unless a member maintains a residence or household for his dependents, subject to his management and control, which he will likely share with them as a common household when duty assignment permits, he is not entitled to family separation allowance.

"It is not sufficient for family separation allowance purposes for the dependent to merely reside in the household of friends or relatives during the enforced separation."

The Defense Department submitted to Congress a legislative proposal to amend section 427(b) of title 37, U.S.C., on June 12, 1968, but Congress failed to act on the proposal before it adjourned Oct. 14.

In the absence of legislative relief, the Defense Department had no choice but to enforce the ruling of the Comptroller General. Consequently, on Oct. 17 instructions were sent to the Military Departments to comply with the Comptroller General's ruling effective Dec. 1.

Troops, Planes Moving Out On Exercise

Troops and planes continue to arrive in Europe as a major U.S. military exercise gets underway to study and further develop techniques for the deployment of U.S. NATO forces.

Scheduled to continue through February the maneuvers will include about 12,000 Army troops and 3,500 Air Force personnel.

During the exercises the Air Force will deploy from the U.S. 96 F-4D fighter aircraft of the Tactical Air Command. These planes will be refueled during the trans-atlantic flight by Strategic Air Command KC-135 tankers.

In addition, the Air Force's Military Air Command will fly 230 C-141 missions lifting Army and Air Force personnel and equipment from the U.S.

The four F-4 squadrons in the exercise, named Crested Cap I, will remain temporarily in Europe to complete additional training before returning to the U.S.

The Army units deployed as part of the exercise, named Reforger I, will return to the U.S. when the exercises are completed.

Return to the U.S. of the main body is scheduled for February 8-20, and the rear echelon troops—less maintenance units — between March 16-20. The last element is due to leave Europe about April 14.

It was explained that the exercises are the first in a projected annual series for those units and other units based in Germany. The maneuvers are designed to maintain proficiency in operating procedures and to deal with special requirements pertaining to the

(Continued on Page 2)

Service Charges Are Explained

The Air Force has determined there is no legal basis for the involuntary collection of service charges for maid or housekeeping services from officers, enlisted personnel and civilians involuntarily assigned to permanent party bachelor housing.

The Air Force said that rapidly escalating service charges are a major irritant to personnel involved and many complaints have been received.

Factors such as increased minimum wages and costs of supplies and equipment have resulted in individuals paying as much as $30 per month for maid service the Air Force said.

These charges, combined with the loss of BAQ, have made it more costly, in many cases, to live in government housing than in the local community.

The Air Force has authorized several alternatives for local commanders which may effectively reduce service charges, thereby making these charges more acceptable to individuals involuntarily assigned to government housing.

They can minimize costs by scheduling maid service for a weekly general cleaning and linen exchange; have periodic instead of daily cleaning of communal areas and use appropriated fund supplies and equipment for cleaning communal areas.

They may use personnel paid from appropriated funds to clean communal areas such as hallways, stairways, entrances and lounges, if these funds are available. It was pointed out that cleaning of communal living areas within apartment-style bachelor housing units will not be included in this authority.

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ON PATROL—A-7A Corsair II jet fighter flies high over mother ship USS Ranger (CVA-61) in Tonkin Gulf. Jet is in second year of combat operations.

2 Generals 3 Colonels, Promoted

The Department of the Army has promoted two officers to major general and three to brigadier general, all with promotion dates of Jan. 1, 1969.

Going to two-star rank were Ralph L. Foster, Deputy Commanding General, 7th Army Support Command, APO New York 09403, and, Herron N. Maples, Deputy Commanding General for Logistics, USAREUR, APO New York 09403.

New brigadier generals: DeWitt C. Armstrong, Assistant Division Commander, 2nd Army Division, Ft. Hood, Tex.; Fred E. Karhohs, Assistant Division Commander, 24th Infantry Division, Ft. Riley, Kan.; and Richard C. Horne, Commander of the U. S. Army Signal School, Ft. Monmouth, N. J.

All will remain in their present assignments.

Troops, Planes

(Continued from Page 1)

European theater. It is a dual-base exercise of NATO-committed troops, not a Strike Command quick reaction exercise, the Army said.

The United States was committed to the exercise as early as May 1967. When the Reforger forces deployed to CONUS, the U.S. agreed to conduct an annual exercise in Europe. The specific timing of the exercise was decided subsequent to the invasion of Czechoslovakia, the Army said.

Scheduling of the exercises was announced to NATO in Brussels Nov. 14, 1968 by Secretary of Defense Clark M. Clifford, as part of the proposed U.S. contribution to the increased readiness of NATO. The exercises had been planned for later in 1969.

Once in Europe, Army troops were to receive their prepositioned equipment, move to Grafenwoehr, test the equipment, conduct an airmobile demonstration at Grafenwoehr-Hohenfels, process their equipment for return to prepositioned storage and return to the U.S.

During the exercises the troops were to maneuver against and with Europe-based USAREUR units under VII Corps.

The question as to whether the U.S. planned to send Special Forces units to Germany for exercises was answered by the Army:

"We are considering the deployment of selected elements of Special Forces units to Europe for training and exercises sometime during the first half of 1969. These elements belong to units redeployed to the U.S. from Europe during 1968. No definitive plans for the training and exercises have yet been made. This is only one of the many steps that we and our allies are taking or actively considering to meet the commonly perceived need to improve NATO forces in the wake of the Czech crisis."

Air Force Will Begin Computer Program

A new computer program giving personnel managers at all levels more time and information to consider the individual airman's desires will begin Feb. 1 by the Air Force, according to the Military Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas.

The new system, which will be used by consolidated base personnel offices, major air commands and the Center, will make an expanded airman data file immediately accessible to military personnel managers at the USAFMPC.

Major commands now have 125 items of data on each airman in their computers that is given to personnel managers at Headquarters Air Force in periodic reports. Airman assignment managers are supported by a punch card system not capable of reacting to immediate needs. Many assignment actions must be revised because of status changes that are not reflected in the reports.

With the increased data available and immediate access to the new system, there will be furnished a more complete picture of the status, education, training, desires and qualifications of the individual airman.

With the innovation, an airman for the first time will be able to state his preferences for specific bases, overseas countries, states and major commands without actually volunteering for reassignment.

Forecasting of overseas returnees will be eliminated and airmen will be furnished CONUS assignments, or consecutive overseas assignments based on their projected return dates and assignment preferences. The new system will improve assignment selection procedures by insuring that all elegible personnel are considered and the most eligible identified.

Another innovation is automatic updating of computer records on the effective date of promotion to E-4 and higher. In the case of promotion, Hq. USAF will advise the field and the individual of his selection by flowing a punched card to the CPBO in the system.

The new system also allows advanced notification of the approval or disapproval of retirement applications. Notification will be furnished to the individual and the field by the USAFMPC computer. Like promotions, projected retirements are stored in the computer record and are automatically recorded on the effective date.

The additional data available on each airman to the action offices will greatly improve the Air Force's ability to satisfy the military needs and desires of the individual, the Air Force said.

SAVINGS AWARD—Gen. C.H. Bonesteel, 8th Army commanding general, right, congratulates Col. Richard T. Batson, commanding officer of 36th Engineer Group (Combat) in Seoul, Korea, after his unit won Minuteman flag for outstanding participation in Army Savings Program. At left is Major Eddie H. Jones, 8th Army executive officer, secretary to general staff.

Top AF NCOs Will Gain In 1969

More than 6,000 new chief and senior master sergeants will gain their new ranks during calendar year 1969, according to the Air Force.

In addition, 113 will advance in reserve and Air National Guard units.

Slated for E-9 are 1,637 selectees while 4,256 will be promoted to E-8. Reserve and ANG promotions will hike 50 to chief and 63 to senior grades.

Of the total, 166 put on new E-9 stripes in January and 299 make E-8. However, only 30 of the chiefs and 34 of the seniors are from the 1969 group, the remainder being holdovers from the 1968 selection list.

It was explained that the 1968 selectees would have a date of rank of Dec. 1, 1968, but their pay and allowances would date from Jan. 1, 1969. This was necessary so that the E-8's left over would be eligible for promotion along with their contemporaries. Otherwise they would lag a year behind.

Reserve and Air National Guard units had one promotion to each grade with date of rank of Jan. 1.

Transition to a New Administration

CONTINUITY AND CHANGE IN FOREIGN POLICY

On January 20 a new President takes over responsibility for the foreign policy of the United States. In a recent address Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, pointed out that in the realm of foreign policy a new administration will have to balance continuity and change.

"These are days of transition in Washington," said Mr. Sisco. "They afford an opportunity to examine our policies anew—to undertake a searching scrutiny at a time when a new President is about to assume office and the country's mood is one of unrest and of questioning over some of our key policies: Vietnam, the UN, foreign aid, and our security commitments abroad."

Below are excerpts from his speech of December 11.

A new administration will have to balance *continuity* and *change*. It will have new opportunities. It can start afresh, less bound to the past. At the same time, it will face the stark realities of the present. There are constants of geography and power to which any administration must be responsive. There are certain responsibilities that it cannot shirk.

Secretary Rusk's successor will have to take into account that in the nuclear age awesome American power may tend to limit rather than give greater freedom of action. No successor can ignore problems which exist in the Middle East, in Europe, in Africa, or in other critical areas of the world.

Assumptions for a Responsible Policy

If we are to talk with each other and not past each other about foreign policy there are assumptions—or truisms if you prefer—that the dissenters and the establishment alike need to accept:

- First, there can be no doubt that American democracy and freedom, admittedly imperfect, are worth cherishing and protecting, and that this is the underlying purpose of our foreign policy. Some of the dissenting young may believe that there is not much to choose between freedom in our open society and that of the closed communist societies—but the youth of Prague, the Jewish minorities of Poland, and the intellectuals of the Soviet Union know better.
- Second, . . . foreign policy issues and decisions rarely present themselves as generalities. Nor do they always offer identifiable choices between moral and immoral courses of action. The next administration and the next generation will face specific problems and specific crises, as did the last and the one before it. These will often pose hard choices.

It is with some of the specifics which will face the new administration that I now wish to deal briefly. These concern the broad range of our interests—how we meet world crises and build a peaceful and humane order on this planet at a time when perforce we will also be heavily engaged putting our own house in order.

Vietnam

First, and foremost, is the need to bring an end to the war in Vietnam on the basis of a reasonable and honorable settlement. Any Vietnam solution must be approached in the perspective of our overall foreign policy. For, apart from the sacrifices in lives and national wealth, there are broad concerns over what should be the proper and responsible role of the United States in the world. Particularly, the American people want to make sure that our power and responsibility overseas is exercised properly to accomplish basic American purposes. And they want to make sure that other nations pull their weight and share the responsibilities of collective security and building the peace.

The Middle East

Second in the scale of priorities is the Middle East. We face an increasingly serious and deteriorating situation there as is evidenced by the continuing outbreaks of violence and hostilities over the past days and weeks. These incidents are the latest reminders that the divisions and distrust between the Arabs and Israelis remain deeply embedded.

While the question of peace rests primarily with the parties, your government has worked long and hard in support of the efforts of UN Representative Gunnar Jarring, who was mandated by the UN Security Council to try to promote agreement on a just and lasting peace.

Limitation of Nuclear Arms Race

Third, there is need to regain the momentum of negotiations to moderate the arms race—as quickly as the international climate permits. Negotiating in good faith on effective measures for an early limitation of the nuclear arms race is an urgent item on the agenda. In the absence of any agreement, the nuclear arms race in offensive and defensive missile systems could escalate to new levels. Any unnecessary diversion of resources from peaceful pursuits with no real increase in security could be a tragic development for all.

Fresh Look at the United Nations

Fourth, there is need for a fresh look at the role of the UN in today's world—a world very different from that in which the UN started in 1945. Since then, the

UN has helped promote our national interest and the cause of peace. It has now grown from a western-oriented institution of 51 countries to a body of 126 nations, three-quarters of which are poor and more than half of which are new countries from Africa and Asia.

We need to review the capacities and limitations of the modern United Nations and find practical ways to strengthen it as a world forum and site for negotiation, as a place where peaceful settlement of disputes can be promoted . . . as a place for action in the field of economic and social development, as a place for developing constructive actions in disarmament, peaceful uses of outer space, the deep seabeds, and the control of the human environment.

The stark fact is that with the expansion of UN membership our influence in the Organization has been diluted. We face a discrepancy between power and responsibility. Formal voting power in various organs of the United Nations has shifted to the new, impecunious nations. Too many unrealistic resolutions adopted by the General Assembly have weakened the influence of that body.

In the Assembly the new majority—understandably impatient at slow progress on matters it considers vital, especially colonialism and racial discrimination—too often tries an end run around rules and procedures, claiming that "moral" issues take precedence over legal methods.

There is a current illustration. Last week a Main Committee of the General Assembly adopted a resolution which would deprive a member, in this case South Africa, of its right to participate in the UN Conference on Trade and Development because of its racial policies. The US strongly opposes the policy of apartheid. But the remedy does not lie in disregarding due process at the UN. Such action is legally unsound, politically unrealistic and irresponsible.

Local Conflicts

Fifth, through the UN and in other ways, we need to take a new look at how the political and security crises resulting from local conflicts can be contained and alleviated collectively and insulated from big power confrontation. The UN has had valuable experience in damping down conflict in such places as Cyprus and the Middle East. It has demonstrated a capacity—still limited and rudimentary—to take emergency action to halt fighting, to keep outbreaks of violence in check and to spur peaceful settlement. The UN has been able to act in certain instances where the major powers held similar views that local conflict must not spread to involve them directly.

We may be entering a period of more rather than fewer local conflicts. There are increasing constraints on unilateral involvement by the major powers in such conflicts. Yet no nation can be safe or responsible in a world of increasing disorder without provision for reliable and effective peacekeepers.

That is why there is need to explore all the avenues to collective security which the UN Charter provides—including the arrangements it contemplates for agreements to provide forces to the Security Council.

JOSEPH J. SISCO

Benefits and Perils of Technology

Finally, there lies ahead the task of adjusting to the consequences of new technologies. All nations can be the beneficiaries of the technological changes our scientists and engineers are producing. These changes can help to improve the lives of more people around the globe in a shorter time than any Utopians ever dreamed would be possible.

At the same time, the promise of the new technology is accompanied by new perils. We are beginning to recognize that our increasingly voracious demands on the human environment, and our increasing powers of destruction, bring with them threats to health, life, and psychic stability.

We are beginning to move in this direction, very tentatively, in the United Nations family today. We are, for example, elaborating new safeguards systems in connection with the peaceful uses of atomic energy. We are looking at the prospects for an international system which would allow harmonious exploitation of the resources of the deep seabed. We are preparing for a world conference on the problems of the human environment. In these and other ways, we are gearing up for the job of ensuring that men can live together in tolerable conditions on a planet which is increasingly crowded.

These are some of the key problems and some of the possibilities.

Many others will occur to you. There is the need to review foreign aid policy. . . . There is the problem of bringing Mainland China into the mainstream of international affairs.

Our guiding principle must be to reconcile the constants of our world situation and the need to adapt to change. This is easy to say; it is difficult to practice. I am confident that America will find the way.

13,000 Officers, 51,000 EMs Will Be Aided

A pilot program to assist the more than 51,000 enlisted personnel and approximately 13,000 officers who retire from active duty each year, will be started in September by the Department of Defense.

Secretary of Defense Clark M. Clifford said, "These trained men and women who have completed at least 20 years of active military service represent a rich reservoir of talent for continued service to our nation. We have a deep obligation to the men and women who have served a full career in uniform to assist them to the appropriate extent possible as they move on to new opportunities for useful employment."

The new plan, called "Project Referral," was developed in recognition of the fact that increasing numbers of military personnel will be retiring in the years immediately ahead.

For some years, the Department of Defense, in cooperation with other government agencies, notably the Department of Labor, has been conducting a program to counsel retiring military personnel on potential employment opportunities.

With the aid of computers under Project Referral, DOD now intends to strengthen the various individual programs conducted by the Services to assure that maximum assistance is provided each individual who completes a career of military service. The program will be conducted on a completely voluntary basis.

Secretary Clifford said, "In many instances, the particular skills and leadership qualities which these men and women have acquired during their military service will be of continued importance in civilian pursuits, both in private and public sectors. I am pleased that after some months of careful study, it is now possible to initiate immediate action."

END OF CAREER—Brig. Gen. Elvin R. Heiberg, right, retired Dec. 31 to close 42-year career with U.S. Army. Gen. Heiberg was graduated from West Point in 1926 and for past 19 years was on faculty there. Congratulating him is Maj. Gen. Samuel W. Koster, West Point superintendent.

ALASKAN VISIT—Gen. Leonard F. Chapman Jr., U.S. Marine Corps commandant, right, is greeted on flightline at Elmendorf AFB by Lt. Gen. Robert A. Breitweiser, USAF, commander-in-chief Alaskan Command, center, and Lt. Col. Albert E. Brewster. Gen. Chapman was enroute to tour of Marine bases in Far East.

Strike Command Exercise Ends

A United States Strike Command exercise, Bold Shot/Brim Fire 2-69, just completed in Puerto Rico, was designed to test the operational readiness and capabilities of U. S. Strike Command tactical air/ground forces for contingency actions.

The exercise started Jan. 8 and was finished Jan. 16. It involved nearly 2,500 Army and Air Force personnel and 78 military aircraft.

Bold Shot/Brim Fire 2-69 included tactical operations by jet fighter and airlift forces of the Tactical Air Command; jet airlift aircraft of the Military Airlift Command; airborne, missile and tank units of the Continental Army Command; fighter, reconnaissance and air refueling aircraft of the National Guard; and air refueling aircraft of the Strategic Air Command.

Under the command of a U. S. Strike Command Joint Task Force Headquarters, the tactical force was mounting a coordinated and combined infantry, armor, and air attack on aggressor positions. HAWK air defense missiles at the main operating base provided defense against air attacks by enemy air forces.

To enhance realism, U. S. Army troops acted as "enemy aggressor forces" during the Exercise. All equipment used in the exercise, except the HAWK air defense missiles, fired live ammunition during designated exercise periods.

U. S. Strike Command's Exercise Director for Bold Shot was Marine Corps Col. Edward Artnak. Air Force Col. George T. Dwyre commanded the U. S. Strike Command Joint Task Force.

Following completion of the exercise, redeployment of troops and equipment to their home stations was accomplished by C-130 Hercules and C-141 Starlifter transport aircraft.

A battalion of paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Div., Fort Bragg, N. C., staged out of Pope AFB, N. C., Jan. 11 on C-130 and C-141 aircraft for a direct airborne assault on Vieques Island, Puerto Rico.

Close Air support was provided by F-4 Phantom tactical fighters from Seymour-Johnson AFB, N. C. They were augmented by F-104 Star Fighters of the Puerto Rico Air National Guard, and RF-84E jet reconnaissance aircraft from the Michigan Air Guard, Detroit, Mich.

In-flight refueling for the fighter and reconnaissance aircraft was accomplished by KC-135 tankers of the Strategic Air Command and KC-97 tankers of the 136th Air Refueling Wing, Texas Air Guard, Dallas.

A special U. S. Warfare Force from Joint Task Force Special Warfare Center, Fort Bragg, N. C., joined with the paratroopers to establish a base of operations at Camp Garcia Airfield. Prior to and during the paradrop, the F-4 Phantoms flew close support missions on offset targets adjacent to the drop zone with live-fire of ordnance.

A HAWK air defense missile battalion from Fort Bliss, Tex., and a tank platoon from Fort Riley, Kan., also participated.

HEADING NORTH—Two F-106 Delta Dart supersonic jets of Aerospace Defense Command leave for Alaskan assignment. Planes were from Dover AFB, Del., and Oxnard AFB, Calif.

DoD March Draft Call Is 33,100

The Department of Defense has requested 33,100 inductees for the Armed Forces in the month of March.

Of this total, 1,500 will be assigned to the Marine Corps, the remainder to the Army.

The total falls below the 33,700 requested of the Selective Service System for February but well above the 26,800 asked for in January.

This request supports currently approved force levels and will assure a timely flow of replacements for men completing their terms of service.

Expanded Service Is Given Veterans

New legislation and expanded service to the largest veteran population in history highlighted a Veterans Administration year-end report on developments in the affairs of former armed forces personnel.

Legislation during 1968 was marked by major and new expanded veteran benefit laws passed in the second session of the 90th Congress. Among these laws were measures:

1—Raising income limitations for all pensioners and monthly payments for 1.2 million beneficiaries beginning Jan. 1.

2—Increasing disability compensation payments effective the first of the year for nearly two million service-connected disabled veterans, with those rated 100 per cent disabled receiving an increase from $300 to $400 in monthly compensation, and those rated 10 to 90 per cent receiving an eight per cent increase.

3—Hiking the VA home loan guaranty maximum from $7,500 to $12,500.

4—Liberalizing post-Korean G.I. Bill education and training benefits and, for the first time in history, granting the widows of those who died and the wives of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled as the result of military service up to 36 months of VA educational assistance. Regardless of the number of dependents, the maximum allowance payable to an eligible widow or wife is $130 a month for fulltime institutional training.

Pertaining to the programs operated by VA, the year-end report summarized:

1—Battlefield briefing by VA representatives of 344,000 American servicemen in Vietnam on their veteran benefits, plus in-depth counseling interviews with 52,000 disabled servicemen in 176 U.S. military hospitals, and veteran benefit orientation of more than 500,000 servicemen at 300 separation points throughout the country.

2—Establishment, beginning last February, of U.S. Veterans Assistance Centers in 21 major cities. Staffed by representatives of the VA, Civil Service Commission, Department of Labor and other agencies, the USVACs offered one-stop employment, education and other veteran benefit information, counseling and placement service to returning Vietnam era veterans, particularly the educationally disadvantaged. More than 160,000 veterans were interviewed and offered assistance at these multi-agency centers and at 57 VA regional offices providing USVAC-type service in 1968.

DEDICATION—Memorial Garden ceremony is attended by RAdm. James W. Kelly, chief of chaplains, left foreground, honoring Marine and Naval members of Marine Force Logistic Command killed in action. Garden is at compound chapel site eight miles northwest of Da Nang.

3—Payment of $4.5 billion in compensation and pension benefits to 4.6 million veterans and survivors.

4—Restructuring of the $2 billion-a-year pension program for non-service-connected totally disabled veterans and widows who meet the income limitations.

5—Guaranteeing the seven millionth G.I. home loan, bringing to nearly $72 billion the total value of these guaranteed VA loans since 1944. During this period, VA also has made more than 293,000 direct loans with a face value of about $2.8 billion.

6—Retention in force of more than four million VA-administered government life insurance policies by WWI, WWII and Korean conflict veterans. In addition, approximately 3.7 million G.I.'s held more than $36 billion worth of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance policies supervised by VA.

7—Entrance or continuance in Post-Korean G.I. Bill education and training of nearly 800,000 veterans and servicemen who received $575 million in educational assistance allowances from VA. Additionally, 17,000 disabled veterans underwent vocational rehabilitation training. Approximately 42,000 sons and daughters of veterans who died or who are permanently and totally disabled as the result of service received VA educational benefits under the War Orphans Act.

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